

# TRICARE Europe

## Release

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### **“Program For Persons With Disabilities” Available**

The Program for Persons with Disabilities (PFPWD) provides additional financial assistance to active duty families with severely disabled children or spouses who require intense, specialized care or equipment. Program benefits may be granted to beneficiaries with a diagnosis of moderate to severe retardation or serious physical disability.

The program provides for specialized institutional care, training or rehabilitation when the required services are not available from public institutions or agencies such as the Department of Defense Dependant Schools system. It does not cover homemakers, sitters or companions, home modifications or special education for conditions such as dyslexia or hyperactivity (except in cases when the individual meets the criteria for mental disability).

Under PFPWD, the sponsor pays a minimal initial share of the monthly cost, according to his or her pay grade, and the government pays an amount not to exceed \$1,000 per month. If more than one person in the family qualifies for the program, TRICARE will pay all allowable costs for the additional disabled family members.

Authorization must be obtained in advance for all PFPWD services and all services must be medically necessary. Occupational therapy, speech therapy and physical therapy require a written

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treatment plan. The authorization must be re-evaluated every six to twelve months to ensure that the specified treatment is effective and that the client is making progress under the program.

For more information about the Program for Persons With Disabilities (and for help with interpretation of PFPWD rules and guidelines) contact your local TRICARE Service Center Beneficiary Counseling and Assistance Coordinator. You can also learn more about the PFPWD via the web by visiting TRICARE Europe at [www.europe.tricare.osd.mil](http://www.europe.tricare.osd.mil). Choose “Fact Sheets” from the A-Z alphabetical drop down menu on TRICARE Europe’s home page.

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